

## Pool 5 Drawdown Update

As of July 18, 2006, Pool 5 is currently in normal pool operation, and is not in drawdown mode. The drawdown was postponed due to a towboat grounding and subsequent channel closure on Saturday, July 8, 2006.

The drawdown reached its maximum depth at LD 5 on June 26, 2006, when the pool elevation at LD 5 reached 658.07 (1.46-foot drawdown). The pool elevation at Alma at that time was 659.54 (0.46-foot drawdown). River flow at LD 5 was 27,400 cfs. Shortly thereafter, we shifted to primary control due to declining flows.

By July 2, 2006, pool elevation at LD 5 was 658.96 (0.54-foot drawdown), and 659.50 at Alma (0.50-foot drawdown). River flow was 17,300 cfs, and trending downward. By July 6, 2006, river flows were down to 13,800 cfs, and the pool elevations were 659.35 at LD 5 (0.15-foot drawdown), and 659.72 at Alma (0.28-foot drawdown). This is very close to the elevations for normal pool regulation. By July 9, Pool 5 was in normal pool regulation mode.

Flows have continued to decline in Pool 5, and we continue in normal pool regulation. As of this morning, the pool elevation at LD 5 is 659.97, and the elevation at Alma is 660.17. Flow at LD 5 is 10,100 cfs.

There was a channel closure in Pool 5 at UMR 744.2 (Lower Zumbro) due to the grounding of a tow on Saturday, July 8, 2006. A pilot channel was dredged over the weekend and navigation resumed Monday, July 10, 2006.

Because the pool was very near normal pool elevations at the time of the grounding, we feel the drawdown had minimal effect on this grounding. The channel closure was not a result of the low flow conditions.

The Dredge Goetz is scheduled to perform dredging at Lower Zumbro during the week of 24 July to reestablish the authorized channel. When this work is completed, the drawdown may be able to start up again.

Before reinstituting the drawdown in 2006, the project team will need to evaluate what the benefits, and possible impacts, of starting to drawdown the pool in late July or early August might be.

The intensive monitoring of Pool 5 for mussel impacts, and vegetation response is continuing.